

The Hongkong Telegraph.

(ESTABLISHED 1881.)

NEW SERIES No. 4471.

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1904.

六拜禮

號三十月二英港香

\$30 PER ANNUM.
SINGLE COPY, 10 CENTS.

Banks.

THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED 1880.
CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED Yen 24,000,000
CAPITAL PAID-UP " 18,000,000
CAPITAL UNCALLED " 6,000,000
RESERVE FUND " 9,210,000

Head Office: YOKOHAMA.

Branches and Agencies.

TOKIO. KOBE.
NAGASAKI. LONDON.
LYONS. NEW YORK.
SAN FRANCISCO. HONOLULU.
BOMBAY. SHANGHAI.
TIENSIN. NEWCHIWANG.
PEKING.

LONDON BANKERS:
THE LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK, LD.
PARR'S BANK, LD.
THE UNION OF LONDON AND SMITHS BANK, LD.

HONGKONG BRANCH: INTEREST ALLOWED.
On Current Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the Daily Balance.
On fixed deposits for 12 months at 5 per cent.

TARO HODSUMI,
Manager.

Hongkong, 11th September, 1903. [21]

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL \$10,000,000
RESERVE FUND \$16,000,000
Sterling Reserve \$10,000,000
Silver Reserve \$6,000,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS \$10,000,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS:
A. J. RAYMOND, Esq., Chairman.
H. E. TOMKINS, Esq., Deputy Chairman.
Hon. C. W. DICKSON. N. A. SIEBS, Esq.
E. GOETZ, Esq. H. W. SLADE, Esq.
A. HAUPT, Esq. C. A. TOMES, Esq.
H. SCHUBART, Esq. E. S. WHEELER, Esq.
E. SHELLIM, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER:
HONGKONG—J. R. M. SMITH.
MANAGER:
SHANGHAI—H. M. BEVIS.

LONDON BANKERS—LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING COMPANY, LIMITED.
HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED:
On Current Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS:
For 3 months, 2 1/2 per cent. per annum.
For 6 months, 3 per cent. per annum.
For 12 months, 4 per cent. per annum.
J. R. M. SMITH,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 25th January, 1904. [22]

HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

THE Business of the above Bank is conducted by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION. Rules may be obtained on application.

INTEREST on deposits is allowed at 3 1/2 PER CENT. per annum.
Depositors may transfer at their option balances of \$100 or more to the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK to be placed on FIXED DEPOSIT at 4 PER CENT. per annum.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION,
J. R. M. SMITH,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 1st May, 1902. [23]

THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED.

Authorized Capital £1,000,000
Paid up Capital £374,374

HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.

Board of Directors:—
Chan Kit Shan, Esq. J. Focke, Esq.
Creasy Ewens, Esq. G. C. Moxon, Esq.

Chief Manager,
GEO. W. F. PLAYFAIR.

Interest for 12 months Fixed 5 %
Hongkong, 4th February, 1904. [24]

THE DEUTSCH ASIATISCHE BANK.

PAID-UP CAPITAL Sh. Tael 5,000,000
HEAD OFFICE—SHANGHAI.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: BERLIN.

BRANCHES: Hankow
Berlin Calcutta
Tientsin Tsingtau (Kiautschou)

LONDON BANKERS:
Messrs. N. M. ROTHSCHILD & SONS,
UNION OF LONDON AND SMITHS BANK, LTD.
DEUTSCHE BANK (BERLIN), LONDON AGENCY
DIREKTION DER DISCONTO GESELLSCHAFT.

INTEREST allowed on Current Account.
DEPOSITS received on terms which may be learned on application. Every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.
H. FIGGE,
Manager.

Hongkong, 1st September, 1903. [25]

TO LET.

NO. 1, RIFON TERRACE in FLATS.

No. 4, RIFON TERRACE.

No. 15, WONG NEI CHONG ROAD, facing Race Course.

FLATS in MORETON TERRACE, facing Polo Ground.

OFFICES in course of erection, COMNAUGHT ROAD (near BLAKE PIER).

GODOWN No. 3A, BLUE BUILDINGS.

GODOWNS: PRAYA EAST.

No. 10, MACDONNELL ROAD.

Apply to
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD.

Hongkong, 1st February, 1904. [26]

HONGKONG HOTEL.

Military Band during dinner on Saturday Nights.

Hongkong, 4th December, 1903. [27]

GUARANTY TRUST COMPANY OF NEW YORK (AMERICAN BANK).

ESTABLISHED 1864.

PAID UP CAPITAL U.S. Gold \$2,000,000
SURPLUS AND UNDIVIDED PROFITS \$5,180,000

Gold \$7,180,000.

Head Office—NEW YORK.

LONDON OFFICE:
33 and 35, Lombard Street, E.C.
F. C. Bishop, Manager, Eastern Department.

LONDON BANKERS:
PARR'S BANK, LIMITED.

HONGKONG OFFICE:
4, DES VŒUX ROAD.

General Banking and Exchange business transacted.

INTEREST ALLOWED

On Current Accounts at 2 1/2 per annum.

On Fixed Deposits:
For 3 months 2 1/2 per annum.

" 6 " 3 1/2 "

" 12 " 4 %

E. F. GROS,
Acting Manager.

Hongkong, 1st December, 1902. [28]

INTERNATIONAL BANKING CORPORATION.

CAPITAL, SURPLUS AND UNDIVIDED PROFITS,
GOLD \$7,992,173.37—about £1,640,000.
CAPITAL AND SURPLUS AUTHORIZED
GOLD \$10,000,000—£2,055,000.

HEAD OFFICE:

1, WALL STREET, NEW YORK.

LONDON OFFICE:
THREADNEEDLE HOUSE, E.C.

BRANCHES AT

SAN FRANCISCO, WASHINGTON,

MEXICO, MANILA, SHANGHAI, SINGAPORE, YOKOHAMA, BOMBAY,

CALCUTTA

AND AGENTS ALL OVER THE WORLD

LONDON AND CONTINENTAL BANKERS:

NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK OF ENGLAND, LIMITED.

UNION OF LONDON AND SMITHS BANK, LTD.

CREDIT LYONNAIS, DRESNER BANK,

COMPTOIR NATIONAL D'ESCOMPTE DE PARIS, &c.

THE Corporation transacts every Description of Banking and Exchange Business, receives Money in Current Account and issues Fixed Deposit Receipts either in Gold or Silver at Rates which may be ascertained on Application.

HONGKONG BRANCH:
20, DES VŒUX ROAD CENTRAL.
CHARLES R. SCOTT,
Manager.

Hongkong, 14th December, 1903. [29]

IMPERIAL BANK OF CHINA.

ESTABLISHED BY IMPERIAL DECREE OF THE 12TH NOVEMBER, 1896.

Shanghai Tael.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL 5,000,000

PAID-UP CAPITAL 2,500,000

Head Office—SHANGHAI.

Branches and Agencies.

CANTON. PENANG.

CHEFOO. SINGAPORE.

HANKOW. TIENSIN.

PEKING.

THE Bank purchases and receives for collection Bills of Exchange drawn on the above places, and Sells Drafts and Telegraphic Transfers Payable at its Branches and Agencies.

HONGKONG BRANCH.

Advances made on approved securities. Bills discounted.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS.

3 1/2 per annum Fixed Deposits for 3 months.

4 % " " 6 " "

5 % " " 12 " "

E. W. RUTTER,
Manager.

Hongkong, 12th August, 1903. [30]

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1853.

HEAD OFFICE—LONDON.

CAPITAL PAID-UP £800,000

RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS £800,000

RESERVE FUND £725,000

INTEREST ALLOWED ON CURRENT ACCOUNT

ACCOUNT at the Rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the Daily Balances.

On Fixed Deposits for 12 months, 4 per cent.

" " " 6 " " 3 1/2 "

" " " 3 " " 2 1/2 "

T. F. COCHRANE,
Manager.

Hongkong, 24th December, 1903. [31]

TO LET.

CHEAPEST HOUSES IN THE COLONY.

MORRISON HILL GAP ROAD. Nice Houses, 4 Rooms, Bath Rooms, Out-houses and Verandahs. Only \$40 inclusive of Taxes.

WILD DELL BUILDINGS, No. 147, WANCHAI ROAD. Comfortable and Airy Flats of 2 or 3 Rooms, from \$25 inclusive of Taxes. And others to suit various requirements.

S. A. SETH,
Land and Estate Broker,
Dairy Farm Co., Ltd.

Hongkong, 4th February, 1904. [32]

Mails.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

FOR STEAMERS, TO SAIL ON REMARKS.

SHANGHAI { DALLAARAT } 10 A.M., 14th } Freight and
C. R. Longden, R.N.R. } February } Passage.

LONDON, AMSTERDAM and A'WIER, VIA SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, PORT SAID and MARSEILLES { PALERMO } About 17th } Freight only.
E. G. Andrews } February }

YOKOHAMA VIA SHANGHAI, MOJI and KOBE. (Passing through the Inland Sea) { JAVA } About 23rd } Freight and
S. Barcham } February } Passage.

For Further Particulars, apply to

E. A. HEWETT, Superintendent.

Hongkong, 13th February, 1904. [33]

IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINE.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD. HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE.

STEAM FOR

SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, NAPLES, GENOA, ANTWERP, BREMEN/HAMBURG;

PORTS IN THE LEVANT, BLACK SEA and BALTIC PORTS;

ALSO

LONDON, NEW YORK, BOSTON, BALTIMORE, NEW ORLEANS, GALVESTON, AND SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS;

Steamers will call at GIBRALTAR and SOUTHAMPTON to land Passengers and Luggage.

N.B.—Cargo can be taken on through Bills of Lading for the Principal Places in Russia.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

(SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.)

STEAMERS.

GERA WEDNESDAY, 17th February.

SEYDLITZ WEDNESDAY, 2nd March.

ROON WEDNESDAY, 16th March.

PREUSSEN WEDNESDAY, 30th March.

HAMBURG WEDNESDAY, 13th April.

PRINZ HEINRICH WEDNESDAY, 27th April.

OLDENBURG WEDNESDAY, 11th May.

BAVERN THURSDAY, 25th May.

SACHSEN THURSDAY, 9th June.

ZIETEN THURSDAY, 23rd June.

SEYDLITZ THURSDAY, 7th July

* Steamers of the Hamburg-Amerika Linie.

ON WEDNESDAY, the 17th day of February, 1904, at Noon, the Steamship "GERA" of the NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD, Captain R. Dahl, with

MAILS, PASSENGERS, SPECIE and CARGO, will leave this Port as above, Calling at NAPLES and GENOA.

Shipping Orders will be granted till NOON, on MONDAY, the 15th instant, Cargo and Specie will be received on Board until 5 P.M., on TUESDAY, the 16th instant, and Parcels will be received at the Agency's Office until NOON, on TUESDAY, the 16th instant.

Contents of Packages are required. No Parcel Receipts will be signed for less than \$2.50 and Parcels should not exceed Two Feet Cubic in Measurement.

The Steamer has splendid Accommodation and carries a Doctor and Stewardesses. Linen can be washed on board.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

For further Particulars, apply to

MELCHERS & CO.,

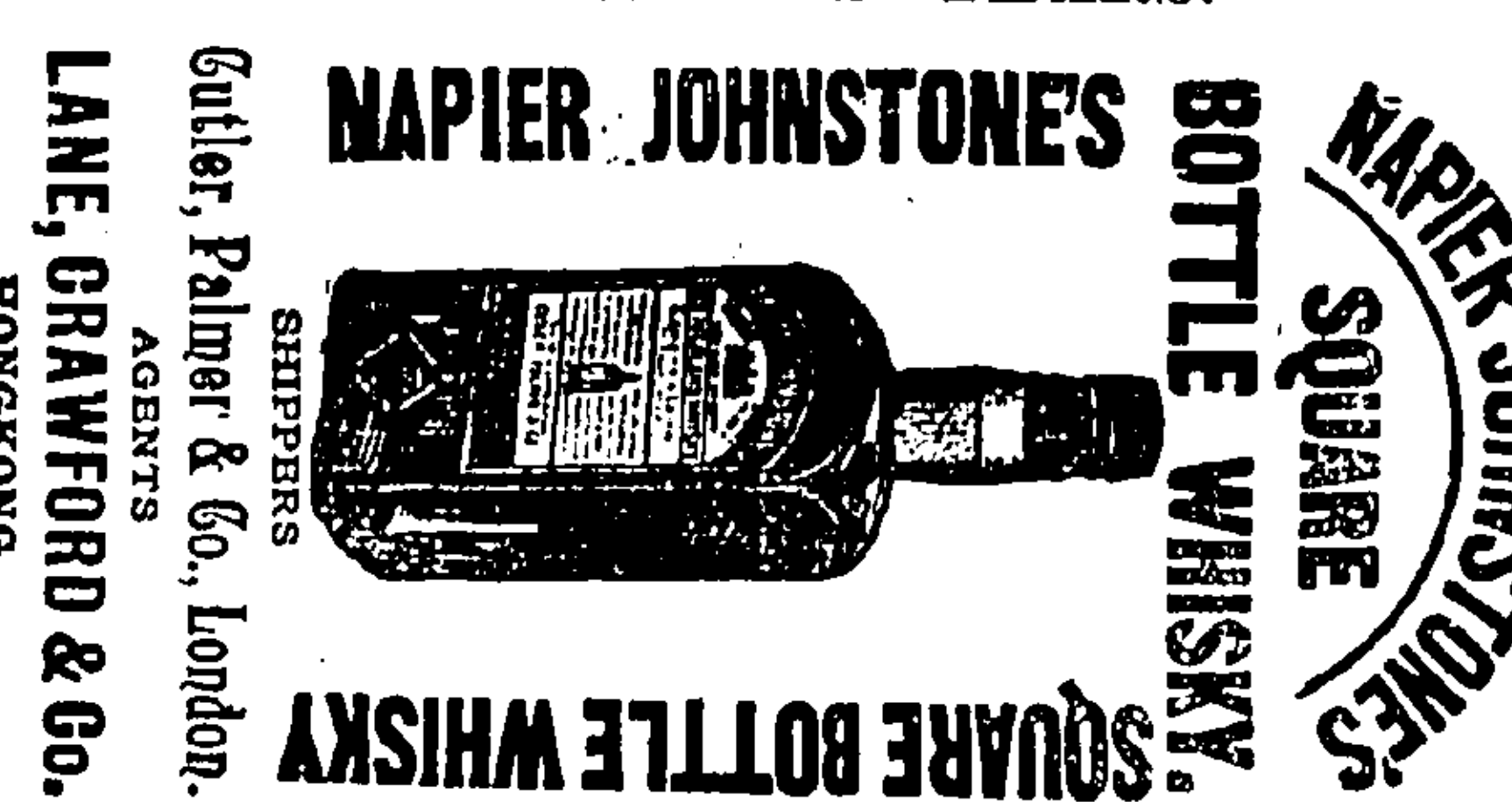
AGENTS.

Hongkong, 3rd February, 1904. [34]

Intimations.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

THE FAVOURITE BRAND FOR TWENTY YEARS.



AS SUPPLIED TO THE LEADING CLUBS AND HOTELS.
PRICE: Per Dozen \$17.00. Per Bottle \$1.50.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

Hongkong, 2nd January, 1904. [35]

THOMAS' HOTEL.

A FIRST CLASS HOTEL, most centrally situated; Well furnished and Airy Bedrooms. Monthly Boarders accommodated on very moderate terms.

For Particulars apply to

THE MANAGER.

NOTICE

TO THE WEARIED.

There is no nicer place to spend a few days in quiet rest, than

MACAO.

And there is no more Comfortable Hotel in the Far East, than the

MACAO HOTEL.

WM. FARMER,
Proprietor.

27

Intimations.

The Bovril Bottle

is familiar in the homes of Britishers the world over—in Great Britain itself Bovril is looked upon as the great national "stand-by" in case of failing strength. Bovril is the very embodiment of nourishment. It imparts strength in a most effective manner, and is, at the same time, extremely palatable.

BOVRIL

THE MITSUI BUSSAN KAISHA (MITSUI & Co.)

HEAD OFFICE:—1, SURUGA-CHO, TOKYO.
LONDON BRANCH:—34, LIME STREET, E.C.
HONGKONG BRANCH:—PRINCE'S BUILDINGS, ICE HOUSE STREET.

OTHER OFFICES:

New York, San Francisco, Hamburg, Bombay, Singapore, Sourabaya, Manila, Amoy, Shanghai, Chefoo, Tientsin, Newchwang, Port Arthur, Seoul, Chemulpo, Yokohama, Yokosuka, Nagoya, Osaka, Kobe, Maizuru, Kure, Shimonoeki, Moji, Wakamatsu, Karatsu, Nagasaki, Kuchinotsu, Sasabe, Miike, Hakodate, Taipei, &c.

Telegraphic Address: "MITSUI" (A.B.C. and A 1 Codes).

CONTRACTORS OF COAL to the Imperial Japanese Navy and Armaments and the State Railways; Principal Railway Companies and Industrial Works; Home and Foreign Mail and Freight Steamers.

SOLE PROPRIETORS of the Famous Miike, Tagawa, Yamano and Ida Coal Mines; and SOLE AGENTS for Fujitama, Hokoku, Honda, Ichimura, Kanada, Mameda, Mannoura, Onoura, Otsuji, Sasahara, Tsubakuro, Yoshinotani, Yoshio, Yunkibara and other Coals. N. INUZUKA, Manager, Hongkong.

H. PRICE & CO.

WINE MERCHANTS,

12 QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

Picnic parties furnished with wines, etc., at a moment's notice.

Contracts made on special terms with Caterers, Committees, Messes and Captains of Steamers. All Wines, Spirits and Beers supplied are guaranteed.

Price list on application. TELEPHONE No. 135.

Hongkong, 23rd July, 1903. [41]

KUPPER'S PILSENER BEERS.

THE LEADING BEER IN THE FAR EAST.

SOLE AGENTS:

CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & Co.,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,
15, QUEEN'S ROAD.

Hongkong, 3rd February, 1904. [42]

INCANDESCENT GAS LIGHT.

The attention of consumers is drawn to the fact that the Undersigned, being Sole Agents for

DR. AUER VON WELSBACH Co.,

VIENNA,

THE INVENTORS OF INCANDESCENT GAS LIGHT.

ARE SELLING THE ONLY GENUINE MANTLES,

The Price of which has been reduced to

FIFTY CENTS per piece.

BEWARE OF INFERIOR IMITATIONS!

KRUSE & Co.

CONNAUGHT

34

Intimations.

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.

IMPORTERS OF HIGH-CLASS

SHERRY.

- B. SUPERIOR PALE DRY, Dinner Wine, Green Seal Capsule ... \$2.00
- C. MANZANILLA, PALE NATURAL SHERRY, White Capsule ... 13.50
- CC. SUPERIOR OLD PALE DRY, NATURAL SHERRY, Red Seal Capsule ... 16.00
- D. VERY SUPERIOR OLD PALE DRY, Choice Old Wine, White Seal Capsule ... 18.00
- E. EXTRA SUPERIOR OLD PALE DRY, Very Fine Quality (old bottled), Black Seal Capsule 27.00

B, C, and CC are excellent Dinner Wines, D and E are After-Dinner Wines of a very superior vintage. All are guaranteed pure Xeres Wines.

Samples bottles and smaller quantities will be supplied at proportionate wholesale rates.

We only guarantee our Wines and Spirits to be genuine when bought direct from us in the Colony or from our authorised Agents at the Coast Ports.

A. S. WATSON & Co.,
LIMITED,
THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

Hongkong, 6th February, 1904.

TELEPHONE NO. 154.
CABLE ADDRESS: "ACHEE," HONGKONG.
A. B. C. CODE, 4TH EDITION.

ESTABLISHED 1859.

A CHEE & CO.,
祥利廣
17, QUEEN'S ROAD.

FURNITURE DEALERS.

DRAWING-ROOM,
DINING-ROOM,
and BED-ROOM
FURNITURE.

ELECTRO-PLATED,
GLASS, and
CHINA WARES.
PASTEUR'S MICROBE-PROOF
FILTERS,
ROCHESTER LAMPS,
WHITE TURKISH TOWELS,
COUNTERPANES,
COOKING RANGES,
KITCHEN UTENSILS, and
HOUSEHOLD REQUISITES.

**PHOTOGRAPHIC
DEPARTMENT.**
DEVELOPING and PRINTING
UNDERTAKEN for AMATEURS.
GOOD WORK.
PROMPT RETURN.

Hongkong, 8th January, 1904.

**CARMICHAEL AND
CLARKE,**

CONSULTING ENGINEERS AND
SHIPBUILDERS,
SURVEYORS AND CONTRACTORS.

REPAIRS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.
TELEGRAMS: "CARMICHAEL," HONGKONG.
A. B. C. CODE, 4TH EDITION.
A. I. Code.
Liebner's Standard Code.
HONGKONG, 13th March, 1903.

THE Beer to drink in the tropics is the Beer
made in the tropics—SAN MIGUEL.

NOTICE
All communications intended for publication in
The "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" should be
addressed to The Editor, 1, Lee Ho Lee Road, and
should be accompanied by the Writer's Name and
Address.
Ordinary business communications should be addressed
to The Manager.
The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for
any rejected MS., nor to return any Contribution.
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accessible to messenger. On copies sent by post an
additional \$1.40 per quarter is charged for postage.
The postage on the weekly issue to any part of
the world is 80 cents per quarter.
Single Copies Daily, ten cents; Weekly, twenty-
five cents.

BIRTH.

On the 8th February, at Pandry, Bubbling
Well Road, Shanghai, the wife of CHARLES
R. Shaw, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 1st Feb., at Afghan Memorial Church,
Colaba, Bombay, by the Rev. H. W. Nelson,
ALBERT VICTOR REYNOLDS, of Rose & Co.,
Bombay, to ANNIE AMELIA (EMILY) ROBIN-
SON, of Singapore.

On the 6th of February, at 122, Rue Palikao,
Shanghai, by the Rev. Young J. Allen, D.D.,
LL.D., the Rev. ALBERT C. BOWEN to Miss
JEANNE SANDERS, both of the Methodist Epis-
copal Church, South.

DEATH.

On the 4th February, at Hangchow, MALCOLM
FINLEY, youngest child of the Rev. J. C. and
Mrs. Garritt, aged 8 months.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1904.

THE POLICY OF GREAT
BRITAIN.

A home correspondent writes that he has
high authority for stating that a Note has
been, or is about to be, communicated to the
various Powers by Lord Lansdowne, as
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, regard-
ing the possibility of common action in the
event of war breaking out between Japan
and Russia. Such action, he says, would
cover the general protection of Western lives,
property and interests, special ships of each
Power being detailed for the purpose; but it
would not affect, and would not be intended
to affect, any particular policy which,
outside these purposes, any Power might
wish to pursue. France, Italy, and the
United States, it is understood, will cordially
respond to the ideas contained in the British
Note thus indicated. When the mail left
home there was considerable anxiety there
as to the attitude of Great Britain in the
event of hostilities breaking out between
the two Far Eastern Powers. As we have
already pointed out on several occasions, the
policy of England in such a contingency
is strictly defined by the recent alliance
with Japan, by which we are bound to
help the Mikado's Empire if another
power comes to the assistance of the
Muscovite. We were informed yesterday,
by a proclamation of the King's repre-
sentative, that Great Britain will, in the
meantime, observe the strictest neutrality.
She will doubtless continue to do so until
the end of the war, as the possibility of
another Power joining Russia is so remote
that its consequences need scarcely be dis-
cussed. Supposing, however, that the Japan-
ese fleets suffered annihilation, and the
Land of the Rising Sun was ready to throw
down its arms to Russia a very serious ques-
tion would arise. As *The Times* and several
other journals pointed out on the 8th ult.,
the whole question of the balance of power
in the Far East would then be at stake.
Russia, triumphant and predominant, would
be a most formidable menace to British
prestige, influence and commercial interests
in the whole of the Western Pacific; but from
the opening results of hostilities, Japan seems
far from being obliterated, and the contin-
gency suggested is not likely to arise.
Should, however, Great Britain have occa-
sion to insist upon the security of her inter-
ests in the Far East, it is of moment to note
that the British fleet on the China Station
is at present one of the strongest in the navy.
The battleships include the *Albion*, flying
the flag of the Rear-Admiral, the Hon. A.
G. Curzon-Howe, C.B., C.M.G., the *Centurion*,
the *Glory*, with the flag of the Commander-
in-Chief, Admiral Sir Cyprian A. G. Bridge,
K.C.B., the *Ocean*, and the *Vengeance*. In
addition to these, the fleet comprises five
armoured cruisers, including the *King Alfred*,
which is hourly expected, but which we under-
stand is to return home, a strong force of
protected cruisers and a destroyer flotilla.
We believe we are correct in saying that at
no previous time has the British fleet in
these waters had the strength it now pos-
sesses, nor has it ever been so well equipped in
men and material. There is a probability
of not only a considerable addition being
made to the squadron, but—and perhaps
particularly to the attaching of ex-
pert naval officers to Japan. The latter
measures, however, would be adopted not
necessarily as antagonistic to Russia, but as
a precaution made requisite by the Anglo-
Japanese alliance, it being simply intended
that the fleet should report home as to
the condition and prospects of the Japanese
navy and its extent to which Japan might
require our aid, moral or material, should
the necessity unfortunately arise.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

POLICE regulations in connection with traffic,
etc., at the forthcoming races have been
published.

DOGS brought from Shanghai will not be per-
mitted to land in the Colony for a period of six
months from to-day.

CAPT. D. McDonald, of the Hongkong Volun-
teer Corps, has been granted leave of absence
for four months from the 12th March next.

THE name of Dr. D. R. Paul, of 3, Gravelle
Terrace, Kowloon, has been added to the
register of medical and surgical practitioners
qualified to practise medicine and surgery in
the Colony.

VIC. Admiral Sir Gerard H. U. Noel, K.C.M.G.,
K.C.B., the new British Commander-in-Chief
on the China Station in succession to Admiral
Sir Cyprian Bridge, left London on Feb. 5, per
P. and O. steamer *Algonquin*, for Hongkong.

THE Japanese is busy casting hard words at
the "Jap." He calls him "Yellow" and a
"Monkey." It may be remembered that the
Chinese began their disastrous campaign in
1894 with similar epithets, amongst which wo-
jen figured largely.

LORD Charles Bessford met with a somewhat
serious hunting accident in Northamptonshire
last month and sustained a slight concussion
of the brain. He is now progressing favour-
ably, but is still confined to the country house
where he was staying at the time of the
accident.

A CORRESPONDENT at Johannesburg tele-
graphs to the *Standard* that the opponents of
Chinese labour in that city comprise half a
dozen men with a comparatively small stake
in the land. Disorder, he adds, is far more
likely to result from English intervention in
Transvaal affairs than from local opposition.

ONE of the four or five existing unused copies
of the 2d. blue Mauritius stamps of 1847,
wrongly engraved "Post Office" instead of
"Post Paid," was sold at Messrs. Puttick and
Simpson's on 13th ult. for £1,450. It belonged
to Mr. James Bonar, of Hampstead, who over
40 years ago bought it for a few pence while at
school.

ON Monday afternoon on the Happy Valley the
Hongkong Football Club will play H.M.S.
Cressy. Kick-off at half-past four. The fol-
lowing will play for the Club:—A. N. Other,
goal; H. C. Austen, and E. F. Annot, backs;
H. C. Gray, J. W. C. Bonnar, and C. T. Kew,
halves; W. H. Williams, C. R. S. Cooper,
R. Hancock, R. A. Whitmore, and J. D. Danby
forwards.

A NEW steamer built to the order of the French
Asiatic Company and destined for service be-
tween Marseilles and China, has been launched
at Gravelle. The vessel's net tonnage is 8,000
tons and her engines are of 3,100 h.p. Her fur-
naces are adapted for the consumption of either
oil or coal and special arrangements have been
made in her fittings for the transportation of
about 2,000 troops.

REMARKABLE statements were made in the
Whitaker Wright trial. The "system" of the
London and Globe Corporation in dealing with
shares was shown to be that of treating the
value at par though the market price might
be much higher. In the promotion of the British
American Company the Globe made a
profit of £350,000. For a loan of £25,000 for
two days the company paid £500.

THE *Standard's* Brussels correspondent says
that representatives of the United States and
Belgian interests in the Hankow and Canton
Railroad have signed an agreement by which
the interests will be separated and the railway
divided into two sections, the Belgians to con-
trol the northern section and the Americans
the southern section. The board of directors
will be composed of Belgians and Americans
in equal proportion.

A CONTEMPORARY states that the Admiralty
are so impressed with the success of the British
type of submarine, of which there are 19
built or building, that they intend to include
in the new shipbuilding programme orders for a
number of other boats. It is now stated that
the Admiralty are contemplating the construc-
tion of a large flotilla at the earliest possible
date. It is proposed to build 27 more subma-
rines in batches of nine at a time, and to
complete them with as much celerity as pos-
sible.

In view of the approaching Chinese New Year,
the Captain Superintendent of Police has been
authorised to give permission for crackers to be
fired in certain streets at stipulated times.
These are set forth in the *Government Gazette*.
No burning cracker or other fire is to be thrown
above the head or near any person or inflam-
mable material, and all reasonable precaution
must be taken against accident, as every one is
liable for damage arising from his carelessness.
The police will have strict orders to summon or
arrest persons firing crackers in contravention
of the restrictions.

THE current issue of *Commercial Intelligence*
contains an article by a travelling correspon-
dent in the Far East, who gives an alarming
account of the antagonism between the mer-
cantile community of Hongkong and the gov-
ernment body there, owing, it is alleged, to
the perversity and obstructiveness of the latter.
One result thereof is the suspension of the
Hongkong tramway construction work. An-
other matter complained of is the suspension
of British iron and steel by German and Bel-
gian manufacturers, owing to the growth of
German commercial power.

THE A.D.C. gave a full dress rehearsal of
"His Excellency" at the City Hall last night,
at which there was a very large attendance.
Pressure on our space obliges us to hold a
description and criticism till our next issue.

THE Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial
and Netherlands Hospitals begs to acknowledge
with thanks the following donations to the
funds of the Hospitals:—
Poultry Guild ... \$200
Salt Fish Guild ... 200

THE two Cuban youths who recently passed
through Hongkong on their tour around the
world "the best way they can," have reached
San Francisco. In the course of an interview
they described this Colony as "the worst place
we had ever been in." Very gratifying news, too.

THE Messageries Maritimes has written point-
ing out, with reference to the statement in our
issue last night regarding the accommodation on
the *Yarra*, that although a good many cabins
have been actually engaged in the
Northern ports, there remain on board the
steamer several vacant rooms which can be
reserved for intending passengers from Hong-
kong.

THE steamer *Foo Shing*, recently completed
by Swan, Hunter and Wigham Richardson
(Ltd.), for the Indo-China Steam Navigation
Company (Ltd.), has sailed, under the com-
mand of Capt. Arthur, from the Tyne after a
successful trial trip. The vessel is 210 ft. in
length by 42 ft. beam, is fitted for European
and Chinese passengers, and intended for
service on the China coast. She is fitted with
the most modern and approved appliances for
working cargo.

ON January 23rd the *Financial News* attained
its 20th birthday and the editor has sent out a
copy of the anniversary number. It is taste-
fully yet brilliantly printed in colours, with a
cover designed by E. Fuchs and poetry by
Lewis Morris. The articles deal with the
finance, progress in arts and sciences, legisla-
tion, railways and trade of two decades. Nearly
half the 40 pages are devoted to Colonial finance
and industry. "Our Indian Empire" by J.
Barr Robertson and "Chinese Finance" by M.
H. Houston, Manager of the Imperial Bank of
China, referring to the Far East.

THE marriage of Miss Ethel Durston, daughter
of Sir John Durston, K.C.B., Engineer-in-Chief
of the Fleet, to Mr. Herbert Price, of Hong-
kong, was solemnised on 13th ult. at All Saints'
Church, Blackheath, in the presence of a large
gathering of friends. The service was fully
choral. The bride, who was given away by
her father, wore a dress of white satin veiled
in chiffon and draped with Brussels lace.
There were four bridesmaids, Miss Winifred
Durston (the bride's sister), Miss May Herbert,
and Miss Constance and Miss Adele Mitchell.
Mr. J. H. Hutchinson acted as best man.
Many naval officers were present at the cere-
mony. The honeymoon will be passed in
Egypt.

NOT long since we called attention to the
residence of Miss Kate Carl (a sister of Mr.
Carl, of the Chinese Customs Service) in the
Imperial Palace at Peking. It appears that
when she was presented to the Dowager Em-
press that Imperial lady took a violent fancy to
her, and insisted on her taking up her abode in
a suite of rooms in the palace. Here, the first
Englishwoman who ever stayed within the
sacred precincts, she is waited upon hand and
foot. The highest Court officials are obliged
to kow-tow to her, and she takes high prece-
dence. Miss Carl, who, as we have before
stated, is an artist, is painting three large por-
traits of her hostess, one of which will shortly
be ready for despatch to the St. Louis Ex-
position.

THE main feature of the Mexican Currency
Reform, as suggested by the Monetary Com-
mission, which recently reported, are:—New
dollars are to be introduced into circulation
without impairing the practical maintenance of
their parity with gold with the ratio that may
be adopted. The Government is to close the
mints to the free coinage of silver dollars and
reimportation of the present pesos is to be pro-
hibited. It is recommended that ratio of the
new dollar to gold shall be established on the
basis of the average gold price of the Mexican
pesos in the foreign markets during the past
ten years, with an increase not exceeding 10 per
cent. Gold coinage is recommended to be
suspended until such time as the silver dollars
shall have obtained a parity with gold, and
when the circulation of gold coins will not, in the
opinion of the Government, impair the main-
tenance of that parity. The new dollars for
a specified time are to be exchanged for pesos
at par. If the gold price of silver in foreign
markets shall rise, so that silver dollars shall
come to possess a value equal, or greater, than
ascribed to them by the legal ratio adopted,
steps will be taken to demonetise the silver
dollars and to introduce a gold standard with
free coinage and the use of the yellow metal as
the medium of circulation.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council will be
held on Friday next:—

BUSINESS.

1. Financial Minutes. ("os 8 to 12.)
2. Report of the Finance Committee. (No 1.)

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

First reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance
to amend the Prepared Opium Ordinance, 1891.
Committee on the Bill entitled An Ordinance
to provide for the Recovery of Charges incurred
by the Colony on account of certain imbecile
persons introduced into the Colony.
R. F. JOHNSON,
Acting Clerk of Council.

OUR NEW GOVERNOR.

The definite date of the departure from his
present post on the Gold Coast of Sir Matthew
Nathan, K.C.M.G., the new Governor of Hong-
kong, is not yet fixed, but it is expected his
Excellency will leave the West Coast in about
a month's time. He will make some short stay
in this country before proceeding, and would
thus probably reach Hongkong early in the
summer.—*L. & C. Express.*

PURE TOPICS.

Times this morning were as follows:—
Algerine—1 mile—1.23, 2.01, 2.40, 3.18,
3.52, 4.24 1/5.

"Sine" late Teaboy (2)—last 1 mile—35,
1.10, 1.43 3/5, 2.15 1/5.

"Ct" 1 mile—1.39 1/2.

Muscat and Stirling—1 mile—36, 1.08,
1.44, 2.10 1/5.

Pandur—1 mile—38, 1.12 2/5, 1.47, 2.22,
2.56 4/5, 3.32, 4.07 2/5.

Arranapoke and Beattie—last 1/2 time missed.

Yellow Skin and Mince Pie—1 mile—38,
1.16 3/5, 1.52 3/5, 2.26 3/5.

Rocket—1 mile—36, 1.10, 1.45, 2.19 3/5,
2.54 3/5, 3.29 2/5.

Rare Kose—1 mile—last 1/2, 35 1/2, 1.07 2/5.

Vancouver—1 mile—41 3/5, 1.18 3/5, 1.53,
2.29 2/5, 3.05 2/5, 3.39 3/5, 4.12 2/5.

Dandy—last 1/2, 35 1/2, 1.10, 1.44 1/2.

Remnant—not taken.

Rajah and Polka—1 mile—35 1/2, 1.10, 1.43,
2.14 1/2.

Chantaguna—last 1/2 mile, 35, 1.08 1/2, 1.46 2/5.

Pech and Zuffall—1 mile—time missed.

Aladdin and Disco—1 mile—38 3/5,
1.15 3/5, 1.50 1/2, 2.26, 3.01, 3.35 1/2, 4.09 1/2.

Rebel King—1 mile—39 3/5, 1.16 2/5, 1.51,
2.28 2/5, 3.04 3/5, 3.39 3/5, 4.13 2/5.

Cheesai—1 mile—2.47 3/5.

La France Rose—1 mile—38, 1.11, 1.45,
2.19 1/2, 2.53 1/2, 3.28.

Persistence and Vidilicet—1 mile—35, 1.09,
1.44, 2.20.

Rex and Royal—1 mile—36, 1.14, 1.48, 2.21.

Talbot's time was missed.

Daybreak and Discovery—1 mile—36, 1.09 1/2,
1.44, 2.19, 2.55, 3.31.

Dormouse and Lumberer—1 mile—last 1/2 34,
1.10 1/2, 1.48, Neddie joined.

Protection and Sylph Rose—1 mile—35 1/2,
1.11, 1.46 1/2, 2.23, 2.55 1/2.

Dandy, whaler, last 1/2, 33, 1.03 4/5, 1.33 3/5,
2.01 3/5.

Quebec—1 mile—40, 1.18, 1.52 2/5, 2.30, 3.05,
3.39, 4.12.

Pink Rose and Mignonette Rose, 1 mile—
last 1/2 mile 35 1/2, 1.10 1/2, 1.44 1/2, 2.18 1/2.

Ca Canny and Crow—1 mile—34 4/5, 1.10 2/5,
1.44, 2.17 2/5.

Regret, Alarm MongOOSE, and Clifton—1
mile—26, 1.10, 1.43 4/5, finished in this order.

Coronet Rose—1 mile—38, 1.13, 1.47, 2.21,
2.54, 3.26 1/2.

Disclosure—1 mile—37, 1.15 3/5, 1.49 1/2, 2.22,
2.59 3/5.

Combine—1 mile—37 1/2, 1.11 1/2, 1.46, 2.21,
2.56.

Doris Castle joined Combine.

School Girl—last 1/2 mile, 30 1/2, 1.00, 1.29.

Fiscal—1 mile—35 3/5, 1.10, 1.45, 2.17 3/5.

Eclipse—1 mile—40 1/2, 1.18, 1.55, 2.29 1/2,
3.04 1/2, 3.37 1/2.

Runaway Girl—last 1/2 mile, 31, 1.01, 1.31 1/2,
2.00 1/5, (2.32), whole time.

Tai Yat and Standard—1 mile—36, 1.10,
1.42 1/5.

Fair Trade's time was missed.

The Bailie and Elder—1 mile—2.58.

Jigoku—1 mile—35 2/5, 1.11, 1.46 3/5, 2.23 1/5.

Teetotum—1 mile—35, 1.07 1/5, 1.42, 2.21 1/2.

Toila and Once More—1 mile—38, 1.13,
1.49 2/5, 2.24 2/5, 2.58, 3.34, 3.44; last time for
Toila.

Marchal Niel Rose—1 mile—1.42.

Modesty and Bunder—1 mile—35, 1.10, 1.43,
Emigrant and Colonist—1 mile—35, 1.09,
1.42.

Manila and Punjabdram—1 mile—35, 1.09,
1.40 1/2.

EARLY BIRD.

THE CRICKET CLUB.

At an extraordinary meeting of members of
the Hongkong Cricket Club last evening, it was
decided that a new pavilion be erected on the
cricket ground at a total cost not exceeding
\$20,000, and that the plans of Messrs. Denison,
Ram and Gibbs, subject to all necessary modifi-
cations, be accepted. It was further agreed
that the Committee be authorised to be the
sum required by the issue of six per cent.
debentures of the face value of \$50 each, repay-
able at 10 yearly drawings commencing on
31st October, 1905. The annual subscriptions for
citizens is to be raised from \$10 to \$15,
and for naval men from \$5 to \$7 50.

THE FLEET.

THE SHOOTING OF THE "GLORY."

The prize-firing returns of the battleship
Glory, at present serving on the China station,
show good results, though far inferior to those
recently obtained by the *Majestic*, which now
holds the record among British battleships.
With her 12-in. guns the *Glory* fired twenty-one
rounds in six minutes, and made fourteen hits
on this target. Her percentage of hits was
therefore, sixty-six. The *Majestic*, in the same
time, fired thirty-seven rounds and made twenty-
three hits, or, roughly, one gun per minute. The
Majestic, though a much older ship, is, there-
fore, 50 per cent. more formidable as an ad-
versary than the *Glory*. The 6-in. guns of the
Glory made ninety-one hits out of 149 rounds,
firing for two minutes, an average of six rounds
per minute and nearly four hits per gun.
The highest number of rounds fired by a British
ship in one minute from the 6-in. gun is 149.
All the shots hitting the target, in the German
Navy eight rounds have been fired in the same
period, all shots hitting; and it is stated that in
the Russian Navy nine shots have been fired
with a similar result. The British Navy, there-
fore, will leave the world, though only by a
margin.

JAPAN.

[Specially contributed to the *Standard* by
"One often wonders how Japan, unaided,
would fare in the event of war with her power-
ful rival, Russia. A nation of 40,000,000, Japan,
like ourselves, relies on her Navy for the pro-
tection of her Empire. With command of the
sea, she would have to act purely on the
defensive and the many islands forming the
Empire would be open to attack singly, and
for a powerful enemy the conquest of Japan
might be only a question of time (and money).
If Russia was successful on the sea, she has the
money to carry on the war? and has not
Japan an alliance with the strongest Naval
Power of the world? In the war with China,
the Japanese Navy consisted of one battleship,
even protected, and four armoured cruisers,
and about 20 smaller vessels, and we know
how well they were fought.

Since then a good many ships have been
added, and although Russia is numerically
stronger in battleships, torpedo boats and
destroyers, Japan has more cruisers, and as
Russia could not take away all her ships from
the Baltic and Black Sea, Japan would not be
much outnumbered and, certainly not, out-
manned. Under these circumstances I think the
Islanders would render a very good account of
themselves, for all would depend on her suc-<

TELEGRAMS.

(Rutgers.)

War.

London, 10th February.
(Delayed in transmission.)

Owing to a lack of Naval Officers, all Ensigns in the Russian Navy, were yesterday granted commissions. The Tsar addressing them said: "A treacherous foe had in the darkness of the night attacked our fortress fleet."

M. Kurino has left St. Petersburg. A British proclamation of neutrality will appear to-morrow.

The Japanese fleet has bombarded Port Arthur, the Russian battleship *Poltava* and the cruisers *Diana*, *Askold* and *Nevsk* were damaged on the waterline. The gunboat *Korietz* was sunk and the cruiser *Varyag* hopelessly disabled at Chemulpo. The crews took refuge in a French cruiser.

The Tsar has issued a manifesto which is virtually a declaration of war.

The Stock Market.

11th February.

Russian bonds have fallen 1½%, and Japanese have risen 2%, reflecting fairly the feeling in London.

The European Press on the War.

All the British papers unite in congratulating Japan on the brilliant opening of the campaign. Even the German papers ridicule the Russian talk of treachery because they were attacked without a declaration of war.

The United States and the War.

The Washington Cabinet has decided to maintain strict neutrality. Mr. Hay's proposals contemplate the restricting of hostilities within the smallest possible area and are regarded as implying that neither Russia nor Japan will be allowed to invade China proper.

The War.

February, 12th.

Lieut. General Sir William Nicholson and Col. James Haldane, British Attachés to the Japanese Army have started for the Far East. Contractors have undertaken to complete the railway line across Lake Baikal by the 28th inst., or earlier.

Russian Bonds.

The Russian Ministry of Finance warns the public against sacrificing Russian securities, owing to heavy falls; he expects a calmer attitude, and though temporary difficulties are possible, Russia's economic power is unshakable. This is a significant indication of the sensation caused throughout Russia.

French War-Ships for the Far East.

Several cruisers and destroyers are preparing at Brest and Toulon to proceed to the Far East. Six thousand tons of coal briquettes have been hastily despatched to Saigon.

WATER RETURN.

Level and Storage of Water in Reservoirs on the 1st February.

	1903.	1904.
Tytam...	22' 2" below	27' 4" below
Pokfulam...	28' 0" below	31' 10" below
Wong-nai...	31' 0" below	23' 9" below
cheong...	overflow	overflow
STORAGE GALLONS.		
Tytam.....	222,520,000	192,460,000
Pokfulam.....	10,645,000	6,160,000
Wong-nai-cheong	2,369,000	7,382,000
Total.....	235,534,000	206,002,000

Consumption of Water in the City of Victoria and Hill District during the month of January.

	1903.	1904.
Consumption...	72,481,000	82,761,000 gallons
Estimated population...	217,200	222,100
Consumption per head per day...	10.7	11.7 gallons

Intermittent supply in force during the whole of January in both years. Though the quantity in reservoirs is 29 millions less than in 1903, it is 115 millions more than in 1902.

Consumption of Water in Kowloon Peninsula during the month of January.

	1903.	1904.
Consumption.....	13,248,000	14,481,000 gallons
Estimated population.....	60,000	65,900
Consumption per head per day.....	7.1	7.0 gallons

The Government Analyst reports that the water is of excellent quality.

W. CHATHAM,
Water Authority.

A DEED of heroism at sea is recalled by the announcement that the committee of Lloyd's have decided to give their "meritorious service" medal to Mr. A. M. Buckland, late chief officer, and Mr. A. G. Tollemache, the third officer of the steamer *Umona*. The *Umona* in May last, while on a voyage from Colombo to Natal with ten European passengers and 480 Indian immigrants, went ashore on one of the Maldivian islands, and was in imminent danger. The two officers volunteered to sail the ship's lifeboat to Colombo, 500 miles away, for assistance, and after nine days' voyage, during which they experienced many hardships, they reached the place of safety. This is probably owing to the proximity of the powerful Russian squadron

THE WAR.

RUSSIAN COMMERCE DESTROYERS AT WORK.

A JAPANESE MERCHANT VESSEL SUNK.

We are indebted to the courtesy of Mr. M. Noma, H.M. Japanese Consul, for communication of the following telegram:—

Tokio, 12th February.

"On the 11th inst., two of our merchant steamers, the *Nakamura Maru* and *Zensho Maru*, when on their way from Sakata to Otaru, were attacked and surrounded by four Russian cruisers near Henashiki (Aomori Ken). The *Nakamura Maru* was sunk and the *Zensho Maru* escaped without injury to Fukuyama. These four Russian war-ships are still cruising around the Northern coast of Japan.

The place where this attack took place, near Henashiki, is off the island of Yezo, almost directly opposite Vladivostok, from which it is probable that the Russian cruisers were detached from the squadron in that port. The *Nakamura Maru* was most probably sunk by the Muscovite war-ships because she refused to surrender, as it is not likely that they would have destroyed her out of sheer wantonness. The courageous action of the officers and crew of this cargo-boat, who refused to be captured and preferred to go down with their colours flying rather than surrender, is typical of the spirit that pervades the Japanese nation in the struggle now begun.

SWIFT RETALIATION.

The Mitsui Bussan Kaisha has kindly communicated the following wire, from which it would appear that a swift retribution has overtaken the cruisers that raided the *Nakamura Maru* and *Zensho Maru*:—

"Three Russian cruisers have been destroyed by our torpedo boats off the coast of Aomori Ken."

It would seem from the above that the Japanese Naval Authorities, on hearing of the sinking of the *Nakamura Maru*, sent out a torpedo flotilla to scour the coast, with the results contained in the telegram.

THE PORT ARTHUR ENGAGEMENT.

ADMIRAL TOGO'S REPORT.

Mr. M. Noma, Consul for Japan, received this morning the following telegram containing an abbreviated report, by Admiral Togo, Commander-in-Chief of the combined squadron, of the engagements at Port Arthur, and kindly forwarded us the same for publication:—

"At midnight, on the 8th inst., our torpedo flotilla made a successful attack on the Russian fleet which was at anchor in the outer roads of Port Arthur. On the following morning, the 9th, at 10 o'clock the combined squadrons steamed up to attack the Russian fleet and, after an engagement, which lasted forty minutes, these last retreated into the inner harbour. At 1 p.m. we ceased firing and withdrew. Our ships suffered but slight damage, and none were lost. Our total casualties are: 4 killed and 54 wounded. The Imperial Princes serving with the squadron are safe. Our torpedo flotilla rejoined the main squadron after the battle. Officers and men alike behaved admirably, and from their coolness and self-possession during the fight one might have supposed they were engaged in ordinary manoeuvres."

The above report confirms the previous accounts of the two engagements at Port Arthur already published in these columns, and, although no mention is made of the Russian men-of-war being sunk, the words "our torpedo flotilla made a successful attack" would seem to imply that some of the enemy's fleet must have suffered.

THE "KING ALFRED."

The British armoured cruiser *King Alfred*, commanded by Capt. H. G. King Hall, D.S.O. is expected in Hongkong to-day with relief crews for the first-class battleship *Glory*, which flies the flag of Admiral Sir Cyprian A. Bridge, Commander-in-Chief on the China Station. We understand that the crew of the *Glory*, which was commissioned three years ago, will be paid off on Monday, and the vessel re-commissioned for a further period of service. The *King Alfred*, which we believe is to return home with the time expired men from the *Glory*, is a sister ship of the *Leviathan* and is one of the four armoured cruisers of the Drake class. She is a vessel of 14,100 tons, 31,156 horsepower and 23.46 knots speed. Her armament consists of two 9.2-in., sixteen 6-in., fourteen 12-pdr., three 3-pdr., and nine light guns. Her complement is 813 and her coal capacity 2,500 tons.

"WAKASA MARU" DETAINED AT COLOMBO.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha inform us that telegraphic advices to hand from their agents in Colombo state that the S. S. *Wakasa Maru*, which left London on, or about, the 15th January is laid up in Colombo for the time being, but her passengers for the Straits, China, and Japan, have been transferred to the mail steamers, *Sydney* and *Yokohama*. This is probably owing to the proximity of the powerful Russian squadron

of two cruisers and twelve destroyers which left Suez for the Far East on the 22nd of last month. These war vessels must be somewhere between Colombo and Singapore, although nothing has been heard of them since their departure from the Canal.

ANOTHER WAR CORRESPONDENT IN HONGKONG.

Among the passengers by the P. and O. *Ballaarat*, which arrived this morning was Mr. George Lynch, the war correspondent for the *Daily Chronicle* and the London *Sphere*. Mr. Lynch, who is accompanied by Mrs. Lynch, began life by entering on an exploring expedition through the deserts of Western Australia and afterwards visited the Pacific Islands. During the Spanish-American war in 1898 he represented the *Daily Chronicle*. The outbreak of war in South Africa saw him again in the field as the *Illustrated London News* correspondent. He was wounded in the battle of Reitfontein, in the early part of the siege of Ladysmith, and was captured by the Boers, while making an attempt to escape. After spending a month in Pretoria as prisoner he was liberated and returned to London. He was again at the front with the expedition to the relief of the Legations at Peking and after a visit to Japan he went to the United States for the *Daily Mail*. He has published "The War of the Civilisations"; "Realities"; "Impressions of a War Correspondent"; and "From Peking to Piccadilly."

HONGKONG'S NEUTRALITY.

With reference to the Proclamation issued yesterday, His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government has been pleased to direct that the Acting Harbour Master shall be the officer specially entrusted with the carrying out of the instructions contained therein.

FRANCE'S NEUTRALITY.

Mr. G. E. Liebert, Consul for the French Republic, has courteously informed us that he has received an official telegram from Paris stating that the French Government had decided on maintaining an attitude of strict neutrality during the present hostilities between Japan and Russia, and giving rigorous instructions as to the attitude to be maintained by all French subjects. This decision of our neighbours and friends will be welcome news to many who were doubtful as to the policy that would be adopted by the Republic, and feared that some secret convention existed with Russia that would oblige France to intervene in the present struggle, and consequently bring about serious complication.

CABLE COMMUNICATION.

Mr. Olaf Nielsen, Superintendent of the Great Northern Telegraph Co., informs us that this Company's cable to Shanghai continues in excellent working order, but as under the present circumstances, it has to carry the whole of the very heavy traffic, there is great delay (at present about 24 hours) on telegrams.

Mr. J. M. Beck, Superintendent of the Eastern Extension Australasia and China Telegraph Company, states that a local delay of at least 24 hours is to be expected on telegrams which may be handed in for the North.

On telegrams for the Straits &c., India and Europe via Eastern the local delay is at present about two hours, but this is likely to be largely increased as the day proceeds.

JAPANESE CRUISERS DELAYED AT SINGAPORE.

BAD COALING FACILITIES.

The continued delay in the departure of the Japanese cruisers *Nishin* and *Kasuga* from Singapore has aroused a good deal of speculation. It was freely hinted yesterday, says the local *Times* of 5th inst., that in view of the alarming situation raised by the Russian threat of an ultimatum on Saturday, the cruisers had been officially detained until the horizon momentarily cleared; of course such a theory was absurd on the face of it, for while there is a Russian squadron behind, the vessels have a clear run to Japan. A much simpler solution of the cruisers' detention is found in the fact that they have not yet finished coaling. The cruisers arrived at Singapore on Tuesday and, with the exception of one or two short breaks, they have been coaling ever since. It seems that the facilities for coaling the cruisers are exceptionally poor. There are only two small shoots on each side of the vessel and no matter how many coolies were set to carry the baskets from the tongkangs to the washpans the work of filling the bunkers would proceed no quicker. Most warships are so built that they can take in coal at the rate of 300 tons an hour or more if necessary; the British battleships and cruisers are continually breaking records so far as the time occupied in filling the bunkers is concerned. But it is all a matter of facilities and conveniences. The Mitsui Bussan Kaisha are in charge of the coaling operations and Mr. Ono, the manager, stated to-day that they had been putting the coal on board as fast as it could be bunkered. "If there had been any delay we would have been responsible for it; but there has been no delay—the coal is being put on board as quickly as it can be received. We are putting 2,300 tons on board the two vessels. Up to this morning 600 tons had been put aboard each cruiser. We expect to finish coaling to-night or early to-morrow morning. The vessels leave immediately they have coaled."

Some 40 of the crews, who were discharged here yesterday, have been re-engaged in proceed to Yokohama at a bonus of £3 per man. Several of them had rather a rough time of it last night. As they could not find accommodation, they were forced to sleep out in the vicinity of the Drill Hall.

The Russian steamer *Odessa*, which is carrying 2,000 troops and a large quantity of stores, has left Suez for the Far East.

It is stated that Russia has ordered the whole of the 10th Army Corps of 37,000 men to proceed from Europe to Manchuria with the least possible delay.

The Russian cruiser *Almaz*, which the Tsar has placed at the disposal of Admiral Alexeieff, is a vessel of 3,200 tons, and capable of a speed of 23 knots. Internally she is fitted up as a yacht rather than a war vessel, though she is fairly well armed and carries a big crew. The cabins, especially those for Admiral Alexeieff, are very roomy, and suitable for receptions and entertainments, the dining saloon being capable of seating 80 persons. In the event of hostilities she would probably act as a despatch-boat or tender to the fleet.

COMMERCIAL.

Messrs. Erich Georg & Co. writing under to-day's date state:—War has at last broken out between Russia and Japan, but it is to be hoped that the hostilities may be localized, and that none of the Great Western Powers will be drawn into the conflict. Business, under such circumstances, has been very limited and chiefly confined to shipping shares, in which some trade has been done at rising rates; but the market even for these shares closes somewhat quieter, the rising sterling exchange naturally influencing the market adversely. The sterling demand rate on London is 1s. 11 1/2d, while the rates on Shanghai are quite nominal, the money market being disturbed on account of the approaching Chinese New Year.

WEEKLY SHARE REPORT.

Messrs. Benjamin, Kelly and Potts write yesterday as follows:—The market continues dull and neglected and apart from the further rise in Indo-Chinas and China and Manilas, the week has passed without anything worthy of note.

The Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited, has advertised its thirty-fifth ordinary annual meeting for the 5th March. The transfer books will be closed from the 20th instant to the 5th proximo, both days inclusive.

Notice has been given of the thirty-fifth ordinary meeting of shareholders in the China Fire Insurance Company, Limited, to be held on the 10th March. The transfer books will be closed from the 25th instant to the 10th proximo, inclusive.

Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks have been negotiating during the week at \$64 1/2 and close quieter at \$64. The balance sheet for the year 1903 has been published. The net profits, including \$1,435,683.17, balance brought forward from last account, after paying all charges, deducting interest paid and due, and making provision for bad and doubtful accounts amount to \$3,771,886.08. The Directors recommend the transfer of \$500,000 from the profit and loss account to credit of the silver reserve fund, which fund will then stand at \$6,500,000. After making this transfer and deducting remuneration to directors, there remains for appropriation \$3,256,886.08, out of which the directors recommend the payment of a dividend of thirty shillings and a bonus of ten shillings per share, which, at 4/6, will altogether absorb \$711,111.11. The difference in exchange between 4/6, the rate at which the dividend and bonus are declared, and 1/8 1/2, the rate of the day, amounts to \$1,128,368.80. The balance to be carried forward to new profit and loss account is \$1,417,366.08. The latest quotation in London is £61. Nationals can be placed at \$33.

Marine Insurance.—All stocks under this heading are quiet and with the exception of a slight decline in China Traders rates remain unchanged.

Fire Insurances.—Hongkong Fires are wanted at \$305. China Fires can probably be obtained at \$92.

Shipping.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboats have fallen to \$24 1/2 the dividend of \$14 paid on the 8th instant. Indo-Chinas have experienced a further marked improvement and after sales at various prices close slightly weaker at \$84. China and Manilas have been done at rapidly advancing rates up to \$25, at which figure more shares are offering. Douglas Steamships have risen to \$35. Star Ferries continue dull at quotations. Shell Transp. rts are to be had at £1 1/2. Taku Tugs are reported sold at Tls. 35, and are in further request at the rate. Shanghai Tugs have been booked at Tls. 46 for the ordinary and at Tls. 43 for the preference shares.

Refineries.—China Sugars have changed hands at \$107. Luzons are neglected at \$10.

Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have further weakened and now close at \$107. In their report for the half-year ended 31st December, 1903, the directors state that the net profit for that period, after paying interest due and all charges, amounts to \$514,396.34, to which has to be added the balance brought forward from last account of \$314,293.70, making a total of \$828,690.04. After deducting from this amount the directors' and auditors' fees of altogether \$10,750, there remains available for appropriation the sum of \$817,940.04. It is proposed to pay a dividend of 12 per cent. (or \$6 per share) and a bonus of 2 per cent. (or \$1 per share) and write \$42,599.35 off the value of Kowloon Docks, leaving the balance of \$425,340.69 to be carried forward. Earnings have considerably improved and are in demand at Tls. 131. Kowloon Wharfs can be placed at \$95, and Hongkong Wharfs continue in request at Tls. 200.

Lands, Hotels and Buildings.—Hongkong Lands are in the market at \$150. Shanghai

Lands have been dealt in at Tls. 113. There is no change in either West Point or Kowloon. Hongkong Hotels are steady with sales at \$146. Humphreys' Estate have changed hands at \$10.60 ex the dividend of 90 cents paid on the 11th instant. Sales of China Providents have also been made at \$5.

Cotton Mills.—Ewos have dropped to Tls. 31 and are offering at the rate, otherwise there is no change to report.

Cigar Companies.—Sumatras are inquired for at Tls. 52. At a meeting of the directors held in Shanghai on the 5th instant, it was decided to recommend the payment to shareholders of a final dividend of 15 per cent. making 30 per cent. for the year.

Miscellaneous.—Green Island Cements are still on offer at \$25 1/2. A. S. Watsons have again been done at \$14 1/2. There are sellers of Electrics at \$12 1/2 and \$7 for the old and new shares respectively. Hongkong Ice paid their dividend of \$12 on the 11th instant and we now quote the stock at \$30. Hongkong Ropes have been disposed of at \$140 ex the dividend of \$10 paid on the 8th instant. William Powells are wanted after sales at \$97. Langkats have inquiries at Tls. 300.

YARN MARKET.

In their report, dated 12th instant, Messrs. Cawasee, Pallanjee & Co. write:—Our Yarn market during the interval under review remained very firm. Reports from almost all the consuming districts have been very satisfactory, both as regards consumption and prices, and dealers as well as speculators in anticipation of a brisk trade after the Chinese New Year (16th inst.) holidays, have further strengthened the market by forcing up values from Dollars One to six over previous high rates. The demand has run on almost all counts and description with the exception of Nos. 6s and 8s, which are not in request. The greatest advance is to be noticed in Nos. 10s and 12s which are still inquired for at higher rates, and in which dealers as well as speculators are highly interested. A fair amount of business transpired in Nos. 20s and 16s at an advance of \$1 to \$3 per bale and selected threads are inquired for at still higher rates. Nos. 12s and 10s ruled very firm and with an advance of \$2 to \$6 per bale on last mail's quotations, a very good business is reported. Nos. 8s and 6s are not inquired for. Sales during the past fortnight comprise of about 3,435 bales of No. 10s: 525 bales of No. 16s; and 1,000 bales of No. 20s; in all about 6,800 bales. Arrivals during the fortnight per steamers *Chusan*, *Suisan*, *Capri*, and *Catherine Apour* of about 7,000 bales. Shipments to Shanghai and the Northern Ports about 2,000 bales. The unsold stock is estimated at about 35,000 bales.

Local Yarn.—No business is reported. Japanese Yarn.—Sales are reported of about 1,750 bales of No. 20s at \$135 to \$140 per bale. Exchange.—With various fluctuations improved and business was done on India at Rs. 143 per cent. London at Sh. 1.11 1/2=

FORTNIGHTLY MARKET REPORT.

Cotton.—Higher rates checked consumption, and sales are reported of about 100 bales at \$29 per picul. The unsold stock is estimated at about 1,800 bales. No sales are reported in Chinese Cotton. Stock is about 250 bales.

Yarn.—Ruled very firm and sales are reported of about 6,800 bales at an advance of from \$2 to \$6 per bale on previous rates. The unsold stock is estimated at about 35,000 bales. No sales are reported in local production. Japanese yarn about 1,700 bales changed hands at \$135 to \$140 per bale.

Malwa Opium.—A very good business is reported during the fortnight at advancing rates. Sales.—New about 13 chests at \$900 to \$920—Old about 72 chests at \$900 to \$990—Older about 71 chests at \$1,010 to \$1,090—Oldest about 51 chests at \$1,100 to \$1,160 per picul, in all about 207 chests. The unsold stock is estimated at about 1,227 chests.

Bengal Opium.—Prices showed varied and extensive fluctuations. Sales are reported of Patna about 672 chests at \$1,295 to \$1,330. Benares about 214 chests at \$1,285 to \$1,325. In all about 886 chests. The unsold stock is Patna about 647 chests, Benares about 344 chests; in all about 991 chests.

Persian Opium.—No sales are reported amongst the Chinese. Stock about 1,600 chests.

Closing Quotations. (Prices per picul).	
Malwa New	\$900 to \$920
Old	950 to 990
Older	1,000 to 1,060
Oldest	1,090 to 1,130
Patna	1,285
Benares	1,280
Persian	850 to 930
Cloves	15 to 40
Saltpeetre	10 to 11
Tiuleaves	106 to 108
Senna leaves	4 to 5
Sandlewood	28 to 32
Vermilion	88 to 90
Cawbazar	142
Grapes	20
Sandlewood Oil	350 to 400
Rosa Oil	75 to 175
Cassia Oil	165
Fennelseed Oil	310
Ivory	300 to 800
Camphor (Chinese)	115
Wax (Japan)	48 to 50
Apricots	27 to 29
Borax	18 to 20
Beans	3 to 4
Glue	28

TO-DAY'S EXCHANGE.

Selling.

London—Bank T.T.	1/11 1/2
Do. demand	1/11 3/16
Do. 4 months' sight	1/11 7/16
France—Bank T.T.	243
America—Bank T.T.	46 1/2
Germany—Bank T.T.	1,971
India T.T.	1,422
Do. demand	1,423
Shanghai—Bank T.T.	70 1/2
Japan—Bank T.T.	95 1/2
Singapore—Bank T.T.	Nominal
Java—Bank T.T.	1,100

4 months' sight L/C	1/11 1/2
6 months' sight L/C	1/11 3/16
30 days' sight San Francisco & New York	47 1/2
4 months' sight do.	47 1/2
30 days' sight Sydney and Melbourne	1/11 1/2
4 months' sight France	243
6 months' sight do.	243 1/2
4 months' sight Germany	1,971
6 months' sight do.	1,971 1/2
Bar Silver	26 13/16
Bank of England rate	26 1/2

To-day's Advertisements.

TO LET.

TWO ROOMS suitable for OFFICE use, Entrance from Ice House Street. Apply to—

SECRETARY,
MASONIC HALL,
Hongkong, 13th February, 1904. [255]

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship
"BALLAARAT,"
FROM BOMBAY, COLOMBO AND
STRAITS.

Consignees of Cargo by the above-named vessel are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and placed at their risk in the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's Godowns at Kowloon, where each consignment will be sorted out mark by mark, and delivery can be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.

This vessel brings on cargo:—
From London, &c., ex S.S. *Australian*.
From Calcutta, ex S.S. *Penn*.
From Persian Gulf, &c., ex B. I. S. N. and B. & P. S. N. Co.'s Steamers.

Optional Goods will be landed here unless instructions are given to the contrary before 2 P.M., TO-DAY.

Goods not cleared by the 19th instant, at 4 P.M., will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by me in any case whatever.

Damaged Packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the Consignees and the Company's representative at an appointed hour.

All Claims must be presented within ten days of the steamer's arrival here after which date they cannot be recognised.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns.

E. A. HEWETT,
Superintendent.

Hongkong, 13th February, 1904. [4]

Entertainment.

SPECIAL OFFER OF

GLACE SILK

in all Colours (except Black and White)

\$2.00 YARD

MAUVE, SCARLET, CRIMSON, SKY BLUE, SALMON
PINK, ROSE PINK, EAU DU NIL, ETC., ETC., ETC.

FINE QUALITY. SPLENDID VALUE. Do not miss this Chance.

1,000 yards only.

After this quantity has been sold this offer will be withdrawn.

SEND FOR SAMPLES

Post free on application.

Don't forget the price: \$2.00 per yard.

Don't forget the address:

WM. POWELL, LD.,
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